

## Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 AID-05 IGA-01 EA-06

ACDA-05 MC-02 USSS-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 SAM-01 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /089 W

----- 100115

O P 090830Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8542

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 1962

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMITH, HUNTER)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS

1. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE DETAINED STUDENTS DATED MAY 31, 1975, AND, WE BELIEVE, POSTED FROM KIGOMA ON JUNE 4 AND RECEIVED AT THE EMBASSY THIS A.M. (JUNE 9) AT 1000 HOURS LOCAL. A SIMILAR LETTER ADDRESSED TO MY DUTCH COLLEAGUE, AMB VAN DEN BERG, WAS ALSO ENCLOSED IN THE ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO ME. LETTERS WRITTEN BY DIFFERENT PEOPLE.

2. THE SIGNATURES OF CARRIE JANE HUNTER AND KENNETH STEPHEN SMITH HAVE BEEN VERIFIED BY THEIR PARENTS THIS MORNING.

3. THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR AND I ARE SHARING OUR LETTERS WITH DEREK BRYCESON AND LEAVING COPIES OF THEM WITH HIM FOR TANGOV INFORMATION. WE PLAN NO PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF THIS INFORMATION  
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AT THIS TIME.

4. THE LETTER FOLLOWS:

QTE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR  
AMERICAN EMBASSY  
DAR ES SALAAM  
TANZANIA

MAY 31, 1975

MR. AMBASSADOR,

WE THE FOLLOWING: SOPHIE-EMILIE VAN ZINNICQ BERGMANN,  
DUTCH CITIZEN; KENNETH STEPHEN SMITH, AMERICAN CITIZEN; AND  
CARRIE JANE HUNTER, AMERICAN CITIZEN; CAPTURED MAY 19, 1975,  
BY THE PARTI DE LA REVOLUTION POPULAIRE OF THE CONGO, ARE WRITING  
A SECOND LETTER TO CLARIFY THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

1) THE PRP HAS EMPHASIZED REPEATEDLY THAT THEY ARE NOT A SMALL  
GROUP OF DISSIDENTS AS WIDELY PUBLICIZED ON THE RADIO, BUT THAT  
THEY ARE A POLITICAL PARTY DIRECTED BY THEIR PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER,  
KABILA, COMMANDING MILITARY REGIONS; AND IN COMBAT WITH THE FORCES  
OF MOBUTU FOR SEVEN YEARS NOW.

2) THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE REQUESTED AMERICAN OR BELGIAN ARMS  
DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY ARE IN ANY WAY CONTROLLED BY, CONNECTED  
WITH, OR IN THE SERVICE OF THESE TWO COUNTRIES. THEY HAVE MADE  
THIS REQUEST BECAUSE THE ARMS AND MUNITIONS WHICH THEY CAPTURE  
FROM MOBUTU'S SOLDIERS ARE AMERICAN AND BELGIAN, AND THUS THEY  
COULD USE THE CAPTURED MUNITIONS FOR THE REQUESTED ARMS. IT IS  
BECAUSE OF THIS SITUATION THAT THEY DID NOT REQUEST CHINESE,  
RUSSIAN, OR CZECHOSLOVAKIAN ARMS AND MUNITIONS AT FIRST. THE  
PRP IS A TRUE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY AND SHOULDN'T BE CONDEMNED  
BY ANY COUNTRY FOR REQUESTING ARMS MANUFACTURED IN COUNTRIES  
WITH DIFFERENT POLITICAL OUTLOOKS, SUCH AS AMERICA OR BELGIUM.

3) THE PRP WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHY TANZANIA HAS CONTRADICTED  
ITSELF. FIRST, BEFORE WE STUDENTS WERE CAPTURED, UNARMED PRP  
PARTY MEMBERS WERE ARRESTED IN TANZANIA AS REVOLUTIONAIRES.  
BUT NOW, SINCE OUR CAPTURE, THE PRP FEELS STRONGLY THAT TANZANIA  
IS CONDEMNING THEM FOR NOT BEING TRUE REVOLUTIONAIRES, HENCE  
A CONTRADICTION. THE PRP WANTS TO CLARIFY THE FACT THAT THEY  
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ARE A TRUE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY, AND WANTS TO KNOW WHY TANZANIA  
HAS ARRESTED MEMBERS OF THEIR REVOLUTIONARY PARTY, AND WHY  
THEY HAVEN'T BEEN FREED. (THE PRP HAS EMPHASIZED TO US THAT  
THE INFORMATION ON THE RADIO ABOUT THEIR POLITICAL ORGANIZATION  
HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETELY ACCURATE AND THE ABOVE POINTS WERE  
MADE BY THEM IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THEIR POSITION.)

4) THE PRP WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY THAT IF AMERICAN AND BELGIAN

ARMS ARE NOT AVAILABLE, THAT CHINESE, RUSSIAN, OR CZECHOSLOVAKIAN  
ARMS AND MUNITIONS MAY BE SUBSTITUTED, IN EQUIVALENT QUANTITIES  
AS REQUESTED IN THE CONDITIONS LISTED IN THE FIRST LETTERS. THE  
OTHER CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.

5) A. THE PRP IS VERY WILLING TO DISCUSS OUR SITUATION WITH THE  
FOLLOWING PEOPLE: A MEMBER OF TANU; A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AMERICAN  
GOVERNMENT; A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT. THE  
REPRESENTATIVES (UP TO A TOTAL OF THREE AS QUALIFIED ABOVE)  
MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PRP POLITICAL PRISONER, SUCH AS MKIMBA  
JEAN OR MLUMBA CLAUDE, WHO WILL DIRECT THEM TO THE BASE IN ZAIRE.  
THEY MUST ARRIVE BY SMALL BOAT, FLYING A WHITE FLAG, THAT MAY BE  
DRIVEN BY ONE PERSON, A CIVILIAN, WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH BOATS  
AND KNOWS THE LAKE.

B. THE PRP POLITICAL PRISONERS HELD IN TANZANIA, AND THE  
DESIRE OF THE PRP TO HAVE THE CONDITIONS OF OUR RELEASE MET,  
ACT AS THE GUARANTEE OF THE PRP FOR THE SECURITY OF THE  
VISITING REPRESENTATIVES. FURTHERMORE, THE PRP UNDERSTAND  
THAT THE SAFETY OF THE REPRESENTATIVES IS NECESSARY TOWARDS  
THE FULFILLMENT OF THOSE CONDITIONS, AND IF ANYTHING WERE TO  
HAPPEN TO THE REPRESENTATIVES, ALL WOULD BE ENDED.

WE HOPE THAT CONSULTATION WITH BARBARA SCHMUTZ (SIC) WILL  
CONFIRM THE SINCERITY OF THE PRP, AND THAT YOU WILL ACT AS  
QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR  
DISCUSSION AS STATED ABOVE.

WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL CONSIDER EACH OF THE CONDITIONS  
FOR OUR RELEASE EQUALLY, AS OUR LIVES DEPEND UPON THE FULFILLMENT  
OF THOSE CONDITIONS.

WE PLEAD WITH YOU TO DO EVERYTHING WITHIN YOUR POWER AND  
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AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, TO SAVE OUR LIVES - WE DO NOT WANT TO DIE.  
WE HAVE FAITH IN YOU.

CARRIE JANE HUNTER (SIGNED)  
KENNETH STEPHEN SMITH (SIGNED)  
EMILIE V. ZINNICQ BERGMANN (SIGNED)  
UNQTE

5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO FOLLOW.  
CARTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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